

I am especially honored to salute the visionary Neil Armstrong, born in Wapakoneta, Ohio, which I am privileged to represent. Wapakoneta boasts the recently renovated Neil Armstrong Air and Space Museum, which has on display various Apollo 11 artifacts, a moon rock, and the Gemini 8 spacecraft Armstrong commanded in 1966.

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments of these three heroes are too numerous to compile. All three had distinguished military flying careers prior to their NASA days. All three were part of the monumental Gemini program, which saw the first spacewalk by an American and the first docking with another space vehicle. In the heart of the space race, these pioneers set the stage for today's continuing exploration of the new frontier. They conquered the moon despite the many unknown dangers of doing so, and thereby paved the way for NASA's space shuttle program and the International Space Station. Their bravery has inspired thousands of young people around the nation to pursue their hopes and dreams.

Indeed, their bravery cannot be heralded enough. Before the mission, Michael Collins commented: "I think we will escape with our skins . . . but I wouldn't give better than even odds on a successful landing and return. There are just too many things that can go wrong." Despite the obstacles and potentially fatal problems, the Apollo 11 astronauts did achieve a successful landing and return, bolstering the adventurous spirit of all Americans.

Neil Armstrong once noted, "We were three individuals who had drawn, in a kind of lottery, a momentous opportunity and a momentous responsibility." Armstrong, Aldrin, and Collins fulfilled this opportunity with dignity, courage, and honor. It is right that we recognize their supreme accomplishment today by presenting them with a congressional gold medal in commemoration of their sacrifice. They "came in peace for all mankind," as reads the plaque they left on the moon. Their achievements in the advancement of space exploration have revolutionized America, and renewed our sense of unity, pride, and hope for the future.

□ 1545

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BACHUS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2815.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2815.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

JOHN BRADEMAS POST OFFICE

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2938) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 424 South Michigan Street in South Bend, Indiana, as the "John Brademas Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2938

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 424 South Michigan Street in South Bend, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "John Brademas Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "John Brademas Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. McHUGH) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. McHUGH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2938.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. McHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we have before us today, as the Clerk just designated, a bill that will name the facility of the United States Post Office located at 424 South Michigan Street in South Bend, Indiana, as the John Brademas Post Office.

As is the practice under the government reform procedures of this bill, I am proud to state it does carry the co-sponsorship of the entire Indiana delegation. Mr. Speaker, as I do on all of these bills, I have had the opportunity to read the real life story of Mr. Brademas, and it is a remarkable one.

I am very proud of the record that the House Subcommittee on the Postal Service has accrued and are working in partnership together. I want to thank certainly the ranking member, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), a very distinguished Member of that subcommittee, thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his efforts, not just on this bill, but in all of our work and, of course, for his managing the minority side of the discussion here this afternoon. The ranking member of the full committee, the gentleman from California (Mr. WAX-

MAN), and, of course, the full committee chairman, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON), for what is yet another demonstration of bipartisanship in advancing this bill.

I particularly want to pay tribute to the main sponsor of the bill, the gentleman from Indiana, (Mr. ROEMER) for really his tireless efforts in ensuring that we have this moment today.

As I mentioned, Mr. Brademas has just a remarkable career that expands over so many years, and I do not want to take away from what I expect will be rather thorough comments by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) to whom I will yield to his side in just a moment. So I will not recount all of the many, many achievements of this distinguished gentleman, but let me say in relationship to the others who have received similar tributes on this House floor, that even by those very, very high standards, Mr. Brademas really excels.

Mr. Speaker, of course he was a colleague and Member of this great body from 1959 to 1981, more than 2 decades, 22 years, in fact, of distinguished service to the people of his district in Indiana and, of course, to the people of this country; and he achieved so much that it is hard to define them all.

Certainly, I think as we take an overview, his efforts on behalf of education particularly stand out. It is a dedication that he brought virtually to every effort that he made, and it is a dedication that predated his time here in Washington and certainly continues even past that to this moment.

I want to say as someone who has the honor of representing one of the districts of New York, we are particularly pleased that we can claim a bit of a piece of Mr. Brademas. Certainly, that becomes possible through his exemplary service as the president of New York University, the largest private university in the United States, where he led that great institution for some 11 years, transforming it from what was then really a regional commuter school into a national and international residential research university.

Even today, he continues to serve as the president emeritus of that great facility and a trustee of the university. As I mentioned, we have before us today a distinguished gentleman, one for whom I think we can all direct a great deal of admiration and from whom we can draw a great deal of inspiration.

Again, to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER), a great deal of thanks for bringing this very, very fine nominee to our attention; and I would certainly encourage all of our colleagues here to support this very, very fine bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.